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## Exhibit 309

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## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA SOUTHERN DIVISION

IN RE: BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD

Master File No. 2:13-CV-20000-RDP

ANTITRUST LITIGATION

MDL NO. 2406

CONFIDENTIAL REMOTE VIDEO DEPOSITION OF
H. E. FRECH, III, PH.D.

January 11, 2021

REPORTED BY: Laura H. Nichols

Certified Realtime Reporter,

Registered Professional

Reporter and Notary Public

Page 31 1 Okay. So one -- to measure the ideal Ο. 2 but-for world, one must evaluate what might have occurred absent this first agreement and all 3 4 subsequent agreements, correct? 5 MR. OUILLEN: Object to the form. 6 Α. Correct. Correct. And obviously 7 that is challenging. 8 (BY MS. DONNELL:) And you state in Q. 9 your report that this but-for world is not directly observable because of defendants' consistent 10 11 agreements which they enforced over a long period 12 of time starting in the 1930s. Is that a correct 13 statement of your view? 14 MR. QUILLEN: Object to the form. 15 Yes, that is correct. Α. 16 (BY MS. DONNELL:) Okay. And you Q. 17 also state in your report that ESAs or exclusive 18 service areas were anticompetitive from the very 19 beginning. Is that a correct statement of your 20 view? 21 MR. QUILLEN: Object to the form. 22 Α. Yes. 23 (BY MS. DONNELL:) Okay. Q. 24 Α. That is my opinion. 25 Is it your view that service areas Q.

Page 32 have been anticompetitive from the 1930s? 1 2 Yes, I believe so. That would be Α. 3 mv --And is it your --4 Ο. 5 Α. That would be my -- that would be my 6 interpretation of the history. 7 Q. All right. And is it your view that service areas have been consistently enforced by 8 the Blues since the 1930s? 9 10 They have certainly tried to enforce Α. 11 them since the 1930s. They have not always 12 succeeded, which you can actually still see in the 13 markets where there is some limited Blue-on-Blue 14 competition. 15 So at least as of the 1930s, Blues 0. have tried to consistently enforce service areas, 16 in your view? 17 18 Α. I would say that is a fair statement. 19 And is it your opinion that the Blues Ο. 20 continue to enforce service areas from the 1930s 21 through the following decades to the present? You mean was it a continuous policy 22 Α. 23 from the '30s right up until now? Yes, that is my 24 interpretation, my understanding.

Q. Okay. And is there any period of

Page 33 time that you would say the Blues did not enforce 1 2. service areas? 3 Well, there's a period of time in one Α. 4 area, in one state. 5 Q. And what state was that? Α. That is Ohio. But that is only one 6 7 state. And is that the only example that you 8 Q. can think of where service areas were not 9 consistently enforced from the 1930s to the 10 11 present? 12 Well, we would have to unpack that. They were consistently trying to enforce it, but 13 there were lots of areas where competition would 14 15 break out for a period of time and they couldn't 16 successfully enforce it, they couldn't get the 17 plans to stop competing, in that there were various 18 lengths of time for that. 19 And that's -- in my first report, 20 that history is brought -- is explained in great 21 detail. The only place where they -- that I know 22 of from the history where they didn't try to 23 enforce it, didn't try to stop competition was Ohio

25 All right. And you are referring to Q.

for a period of years.

24

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- 1 subscribers would have been in the community
- 2 regardless of whether they contracted with a Green
- 3 or with another commercial insurer, for example, in
- 4 Alabama, correct?
- 5 A. Yes. That is what I am saying.
- 6 Probably -- probably I -- I probably should have
- 7 said serve a broader variety of insurers. That is
- 8 probably what I should have -- what it should say.
- 9 I think that is very inartful. I am not surprised
- 10 that you didn't understand it.
- 11 Q. Did you perform any quantitative
- 12 analysis of Blue plans' ability under the National
- 13 Best Efforts rule to expand the Green business in
- 14 Alabama?
- 15 A. Quantitatively?
- 16 Q. Yes.
- 17 A. No, I did not.
- 18 Q. Okay. And your qualitative analysis
- 19 is based -- your qualitative analysis that certain
- 20 types of entry by Greens may run against the
- 21 National Best Efforts rule is just based on your
- 22 judgment and the rule itself?
- 23 A. The rule and my -- my kind of rough
- 24 knowledge of the size of scale of Anthem and
- 25 thinking about how the market would evolve.